

HALL LAWYER TAKES FLING AT MILLS

Quarreled With Wife Before the Murders, He Says

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Why is all this insidious propaganda?

"They raided the home of Henry Stevens at Lavallette and stole—yes, stole—some fish knives.

Letters Stolen

"Where are those knives? Where are they? Did they have anything to do with this crime? Why were they not produced?"

"Here are some letters from Mrs. Hall to Henry Stevens, stolen from Lavallette by Chief Hayes.

"Read them. They are the letters of a woman who, because she has the manners we like our women folks to have, because she does not wear her heart on her sleeve, because she does not wear her skirts above her knees, they call her 'cold and unsympathetic.'

"In one of her letters, written from Chester, England, she says:—
"I have been here before. First with mother; then with Edward. It is full of memories."

Simpson's Sermon

Case's voice was trembling as he quoted this passage and disproved by the state's own exhibits Simpson's claim that in all her letters from abroad to her brother she made no reference to her dead husband.

"And yet your widowhood was new upon you, only six months old," Simpson had rasped at the clergyman's widow as he criticized her for so soon forgetting the husband she swore she loved.

"Oh, what a sermonette! And this from the woman whom they say made no reference to her husband."

"On August 31, Capt. Walsh went to Henry Stevens and got his statement. He tells them who his alibi witnesses are."

"The next night they round these people up at Toms River, bullyrag them and call them liars."

"A man named Soper testified on the stand that he saw two men and a woman in an automobile in De Russeys Lane. Then noon recess was called."

"Later, Simpson called Libby, a defense detective. He asked him if he had talked with Soper at noon recess."

"There was nothing wrong in that. It was intended to bluff you. One evening, as daylight turned into dusk, Simpson dug Dr. Hall's clothing out of a box."

"Not wishing to have Mrs. Hall's heart torn out, I stood before her. Simpson asked me to step aside so Mrs. Hall might see."

"Oh, that isn't the state of New Jersey. Oh, no!"

"Henry on the stand. Colored parentage? Eh? Oh, what bearing did this have on the case? Nothing, just vindictiveness."

"This mannikin—I do not believe there was any necessity for that."

Simpson brought it here to revolt you; so that your own revulsion might react against the defendants.

Calls it Vindictiveness

"The cross-examination of Henry Carpenter! A bluff was made and Carpenter was asked if he had not been present when Azariah Beekman gave Trooper Diekman \$2,500. That was vindictiveness against Somerset county."

"Let's say it was true that Azariah Beekman paid him \$2,500—and it isn't—why was it brought out? It had no connection with



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the defendants. They were not mentioned. It was vindictiveness against Somerset county."

"We gentlemen here in Somerset county may be rubes; we may be foolish enough to need the polished gentlemen of Frank Hague, but we are not foolish enough to believe that these Jersey City police did not know Caprio's record."

"And when Frank Caprio took the stand, the state thought they would get by with something."

Refers to Caprio's Razor

"Either that razor of Caprio's was relevant to this case, or Caprio was a perjurer."

"If the razor was relevant, Mr. Simpson, why didn't you offer it in evidence?"

"If Caprio committed perjury, why didn't you have him arrested when he stepped from the stand?"

Case pointed to Payne, the Mirror editor, as he spoke of the "sinister influence" behind the prosecutor. "Phillip Payne goes to the same man everybody else in this case goes to—City Hall. City Hall is running this case, gentlemen," the defense lawyer shouted.

"What did they produce?" Case cried out, as he concluded a tally of Hudson county officials brought here. "What did they produce after four years?"

Crowd Roars at Simpson

The courtroom was silent. "An indictment," Simpson snickered, and the crowd roared.

"When that indictment was returned, wild statements in the

press were frequently authorized.

"The newspaper is not a forum. No newspaper should do what the Mirror has undertaken to do—a grand jury to indict; a prosecutor to prosecute; a judge to sit, and a jury to convict."

"No reputable newspaper undertakes to do that, but it is what the Mirror tried to do."

"Dr. Schultze testifies that the larynx, tongue and wind-pipe of Mrs. Mills are missing."

"The embalming process injects certain liquid preservatives through the body. If the circulatory system was interrupted by the slashed throat; if the tongue, wind-pipe and larynx are gone, they have simply withered away."

Simpson, in the presentation of his case, attempted to create the impression that Mrs. Mills's murderers cut her tongue out.

"The Dicksons say they saw an epileptic," went on Case. "Four years later they said it was Willie. Two suits of clothes were cleaned. A Mirror man says he saw a scratch on Mrs. Hall's face. A phony fingerprint. Two convicts from a penitentiary—Diekman and Caprio. Mrs. Gibson with two new stories."

"These are the new things produced by the City Hall at Jersey City after four years."

Case then took up the testimony of the "pig woman" and said he would prove Mrs. Gibson was not truthful; that she told contradictory stories to Detectives James Mason and Ferd David; that her "checkered career" was such as to cast doubt on her veracity, and that the crime could not have been committed in the manner she described.

"Mrs. Gibson lived on her farm for eight years. Every time she went to New Brunswick she passed De Russeys Lane. Then she said she had never seen it before the murder night. Later she admitted she had been there. She did not know an Italian colony back of De Russeys Lane. Yet she says she often went there to recover stolen farm products."

"By the light of an automobile she saw a man and women in De Russeys Lane."

"Four years later, when she saw William Stevens here for the first time last August, she identified him."

Case insisted that the headlights of the automobile would have so blinded Mrs. Gibson that it would have been impossible for her to recognize any one.

Points to Discrepancies

He pointed out that the "pig woman" went 565 feet off De Russeys Lane so that the braying of her mule would not be heard, although she thought it necessary to remain only forty or fifty feet behind the cart she followed in order that the mule's bray would not be carried to the wagon.

"After she had tied her mule there was brush between her and the lane; there was brush between the lane and the crabapple tree, where she says she saw these people."

"It was very dark. All that she

says she saw was by the second's flash of a hand light."

"She saw two men. She saw two men struggling. She saw their bodies were shaking. She saw all this in a single second."

"In August she swore she saw Henry Carpenter. In November she says it was Henry Stevens. No wonder the state insisted on trying Carpenter separately."

"And the moccasin—it must have meant a great deal to her. She retraced her way back to where she



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had heard the shooting and seen men fighting—just to look for that moccasin. And yet she testified that she did not remember whether she had ever seen it again."

"She saw by the moonlight a big, white-haired woman."

Case went over to Mrs. Hall and had her stand up. Holding her by the arm, he turned to the jury and asked: "Would you call her a 'big' woman?"

"She identified Mrs. Hall's features. I say it can't be done. You can't recognize your best friend."

"The moonlight gives you outline; it does not give you color."

"She says, although she saw the woman, she did not see the bodies. She excuses herself by saying that she thought the bodies were shadows of trees."

"She said Mrs. Hall faced the moonlight. There was not much moonlight that night. Such as there was must have come through the foliage of that tree."

At this point noon recess was taken.

Resuming his summation after luncheon Senator Case said:—

"We are hoping that the disposition of this trial will be so complete, so convincing, that it will, once and for all, decide the guilt or innocence of these defendants."

Mrs. Hall and her brothers were six feet nearer the jury today. Their chairs had been brought forward, apparently so that the judges of their fate might better observe them."

"Having once gone home on the

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Moore's Breach With Simpson Over Trial Is Widened

The breach between Gov. A. Harry Moore and Assistant Attorney General Alexander Simpson over the prosecution in the Hall-Mills case widened today following Senator Simpson's request for a legislative investigation of the administration of justice in Somerset county.

Dispatches from Trenton quoted the "highest authority" there to the effect that an acquittal in the case would end all prosecution of Mrs. Frances Stevens Hall, her brothers, Willie and Henry Stevens, and her cousin, Henry de la Bruyere Carpenter. Mr. Carpenter, it was said, would never be brought to trial if the three other defendants were freed.



Simpson Phones to Governor

This statement was in direct contrast with one issued earlier by Senator Simpson in which the wiry little prosecutor asserted that the three defendants would be tried for the murder of the Rev. Mr. Edward Wheeler Hall in the event that they were acquitted in the present trial, which is for the murder of Mrs. Eleanor Reinhart Mills.

Senator Simpson talked to Gov. Moore by long-distance telephone last night after a motion for a mistrial in the Hall case had been denied by Supreme Court Justice Charles W. Parker.

After the conversation was concluded, the senator announced:—

"I have just talked with Gov. Moore at his home. I explained to him what had happened at Somersetville, and I told him that the administration of justice in the entire state was on trial in that county."

"I suggested that he order an investigation."

Prosecutor Chagrined

The governor apparently gave the senator little satisfaction, however. Senator Simpson, with his reputation at stake in the Hall-Mills trial, was chagrined, but redoubled his assertions that he would not end prosecution in the case even in the event of an acquittal.

In view of the conflict between Gov. Moore and the senator, the governor at his home in Jersey City was asked flatly what his position was.

"Will you leave the decision of a new trial to Senator Simpson?"

"I don't think so," he replied. "I won't do anything about that or the question of an investigation until this trial is over."

MAY AND JUNE—

Good-by, Hankville

By H. A. MacGill

